About the Anthem:

Don Besig is the director of adult choirs at Perinton Presbyterian Church in Fairport, New York. He previously taught music for thirty-one years in New York state. Recognizing a need for accessible choral music, he began composing for his own groups around 1960. In 1980, he began collaborating with his former student Nancy Price. Ms. Price is also a nationally renowned choral clinician and singer. She taught high school chorus for ten years before becoming a freelance music engraver, editor, and proofreader for the Shawnee Press. Together, Mr. Besig and Ms. Price have released nearly four hundred choral compositions and arrangements. Over eighteen million copies of Besig & Price works have sold in the forty-five years they have worked together. Both are members of ASCAP and have received many ASCAP special awards for their collaborations. Their dedication to choral music is a huge blessing for churches and schools around the world. I deeply admire their continued work with church choirs after experiencing immense success. The lyrics of "The Upper Room" call us to remember the final days of Christ's earthly ministry and the Last Supper as we prepare to celebrate Holy Week.

"The Upper Room"

Composer: Don Besig (b. 1936) Lyricists: Don Besig & Nancy Price (b. 1958) There in a quiet upper room they gathered together once again. The Master stood among the twelve he called his closest friends. "Soon I must leave you," said the Lord. "My Father will call me from this place. Although you may not understand, my life is in his hands I must obey."

> They sat in the silence, tears in their eyes. He spoke once again to ease their minds: "Be not afraid. Do not despair. When you need me I will always be there."

"Come, sit beside me," said the Lord, "For here at this table we are one. Come, share this simple meal with me, and show that you believe I am God's Son. This bread is my body broken for you. This cup is my blood which is shed for you. Take, now and eat, take, now and drink. Do this always in remembrance of me."

"Walk in my footsteps," said the Lord, "Be steadfast in everything you do, And keep me always in your heart, though we may be apart I am with you."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Monday April 7th	Day Circle 12:30pm	
	Evening Circle 7:pm	
Tuesday April 8th	Handbells 5:00pm	
	Session 6:30pm	
	Ladies Dinner 6:00pm	
Wednesday April 9th	Youth 6:00pm	
Thursday April 10th	Bible Study 10:30am	
	Choir 4:30pm	
Saturday April 12th	Sat. Lunch Ministry 11:30am	

If you are applying or reapplying to college-it's time to get your scholarship application from FPC. Call the church office for more info. We will email or mail you an application today! Deadline is April 30th! ~ Scholarship Committee

The Evening Circle will meet Monday April 7th at the home of Harriet Beale. Joyce Perez is the leader of Bible study and discussion. Call 799-5662 if you need directions or have any questions.

Please join us for our Holy Week services this year April 14th–18th, in the sanctuary we will have guest speakers each day. Services will start at noon followed by a light lunch.

SERVING TODAY		
Pastor	Joyce Perez	
Music Director	Ashley Stanley-Robey	
Sound	Ray Beale	
Video	Alex Walthall	
Liturgist	Bernadine Hayes	
Greeter	Eddie Blount	
Side door/Offering	David Swann	

List of Session members

Class of 2025: David Clark, Sam Meadema, Eddie Blount, Jackie Rochford Class of 2026: Barry Cutright, Gail Jones, Kim Wimer, Ava Barrett Class of 2027: Barbara Wilkins, Joan Reynolds, Pat Pinckney, Kent Shelton Trustees: Bob Newnam(27), Ray Beale(26), Gary Wimer(25)

BUDGET UPDATE

	February '25	FY 2025
Contributions	\$9,961.12	\$82,359.33
Expenditures	\$26,149.49	\$70,411.70
Difference	\$(-16,188.37)	\$11,947.63

If you enter the hospital, your church will have no way of knowing unless you notify us. Please let us know of your hospital stay so that we may respond with pastoral care.

<u>A Warm Welcome</u>

We would love to have you join our church family. If you are moved to do so by the Lord, please talk to one of the elders or our pastor.

To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest; to all who mourn and long for comfort; to all who struggle and desire victory; to all who sin and need a Savior; to all who are strangers and want fellowship; to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness; and to whosoever will come-this church opens wide her doors and offers her welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

THE COLUMNS **OF THE**

First Presbyterian Church

Danville, Virginia April 6, 2025 5th Sunday in Lent



Welcome

If you are visiting, we warmly welcome you to our service today.

Celebrating 198 Years of Knowing Christ and Making Him Known

First Presbyterian Church 937 Main Street, Danville, VA 24541-1809-434-792-7822 E-Mail: admin@fpcdanville.com

A Service for the Worship of God **GATHER TO GLORIFY GOD**

Please greet your neighbors and pass the Fellowship Pad to them. CHIMING OF THE HOUR WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE "Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me"

H.F. Hemy/C. Callahan

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 126)

Leader: When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, People: we were like those who dreamed. Leader: Our mouths were filled with laughter, People: our tongues with songs of joy. Leader: It was said among the nations, People: The Lord has done great things for them. Leader: The Lord has done great things for us, People: and we are filled with joy.

INVOCATION

Come to this sanctuary, this house, this home, Holy Christ, and let us receive you with lavish welcome. You are the Restorer of our fortunes, the Promise of new life – we pour out our praise to you. Fill this room with your Spirit: the sound of wind, the warmth of flame, the scent of perfume and fill our hearts with your compassion, not just in this time and place, but in all times and in all places, so that as we celebrate the great things you have done for us, we may also embody the love you give to all. Amen.

HYMN# 463

How Firm a Foundation

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Ever-Present God, you offer us restoration and wholeness, yet we resist you. We reduce the purpose of this life to the amount of stuff we can retain, and we disregard the damage done to our planet, our neighbors, and to ourselves in the process. We confess that we would rather remain as we are than risk the change that results from your presence in our lives. In this season of Lent, help us to realize just how much we depend on one another. Guide us to reorient our lives towards your goodness and your joy. And as you do, we ask that you renew us, restore us, and remain with us, as you always have. SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The Lord has done great things for us. Through the grace and mercy of Jesus Christ, we are renewed, and we are made whole. Beloved children of God, know that you are forgiven, and be at peace. Amen.

THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of Christ be with you. And also with you. Leader: Let us, the children of God, stand and greet those around us with a handshake, hug, or reconciling words, sharing God's blessings and then remain standing for the "Gloria Patri." RESPONSE "Gloria Patri" Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. World without end. Amen. Amen.

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

The Lord has done great things for us. Every good gift comes from God; the things we are able to do with our time, our unique talents, as well as our treasure. In response to God's generosity, we are invited to share a portion of those gifts. However you are able to give, whatever you are called to share, let us continue our worship of God through the giving of our gifts.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God of all gifts, we are grateful for the many ways you continue to provide for us. As we offer a portion of these gifts today, we ask that you might receive them and transform them. Allow these gifts to become acts of restoration and hope, here in this community and beyond. So that all of your children might live into the abundance and the joy that you offer us.

OFFERTORY *Psalm* 126, "When God Delivered Israel"

N.L. Warren

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures here below; praise him above ye heavenly host. praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER HEAR THE WORD OF GOD

ANTHEM

"The Upper Room"

by Don Besig & Nancy Price

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy God, just as you spoke at the dawn of creation, continue to speak to us now as we prepare to encounter your Word. Be with us in our listening, in our speaking, in our understanding, and in our responding. Amen.

SCRIPTURE:

SERMON

HYMN# 629

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH The Apostles' Creed I believe in God the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

(543/515)(874/832)(801/761)

Isaiah 43:16-21 Philippians 3:4b-14 John 12:1-8

"Extravagant Love"

Joyce Perez

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee

INVITATION TO THE TABLE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you. People: And also with you. Leader: Lift up your hearts. People: We lift them up to the Lord. Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. People: It is right to give our thanks and praise. WORDS OF INSTITUTION **COMMUNION OF GOD'S CHILDREN** PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

"Let Us Break Bread Together"

arr. Cindy Berry